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## International Unity in Sorrow.

There are some clouds so dark that it is difficult to find back of them any silver lining. This is true of the wreck of the *Titanic* by collision with an iceberg Sunday night, April 14, when more than 1,600 lives were swallowed up by the sea in almost the twinkling of an eye. When the news of this greatest of oceanic catastrophes was carried to the world next day, a wave of passionate grief, mingled with indignation against those whose fault supposedly the wreck and loss of life had occurred, spread speedily throughout the whole civilized world.

It is not necessary to repeat the details of the dreadful tragedy. These are already known to everybody. The sickening particulars have come out day after day through the reports of the survivors given before the Senate investigating committee and in special interviews. Many have attempted, with what seems to us unseemly haste, to

fix the responsibility for the wreck. We do not feel authorized to do this. The responsibility will doubtless be determined as a result of the investigations now going on here and in London, so far as this can be done with many of the principal actors gone beneath the waves.

This catastrophe has been peculiarly an international one, and in this direction its chief lessons are to be sought and, if anywhere, the silver lining is to be found.

The great ship carried in its capacious interior people of many races and many lands, who went down together into the jaws of death. The vessel itself was, or was to have been, one of the powerful links binding two great nations—two continents, indeed—together. This wreck reveals in an emphatic way the carelessness which too much prevails in the international sphere, not only in the handling of the transoceanic steamship lines, but in many other directions. This disaster is likely to lead—at any rate it ought to lead—to an international convention, making impossible hereafter the neglect by the steamship companies to provide all possible means of safety for the men and women who intrust themselves to their care. We can never have the maximum of security in ocean travel until carrying companies learn that human lives are infinitely more important than dividends and profits. Here is a great field for international coöperation which has been altogether too much neglected. The nations have hardly yet begun to live the life of mutuality for human good that they ought to live. They stand apart in a distrustful and critical attitude, often making calamities themselves the occasion for venting their dislike and ill-will. This spirit lies back of the international anarchy still prevailing and imposing such enormous burdens on the peoples of the world. Until this evil spirit is cast out decent internationalism cannot prevail.

But the thing which has most deeply impressed us in connection with this disaster is the manner in which it has revealed the fundamental oneness of humanity. People of all lands, without respect of race or nationality, were plunged into bitter grief together and suffered a common pain when the sad intelligence reached them. They only remembered then that they were brethren, members of a common family, sharers in a common lot; that those who went down were their own kith and kin. Their differences were forgotten; their sorrow had melted them into one. The unity of humanity would always be realized if people only went deep enough and did not judge from superficial points of view. In war, when men are angry and slaying one an-